

REMARKS

All pending claims have again been rejected as obvious over Keller. In addition, the Examiner has now examined claims 15-20 (which were withdrawn previously in response to a restriction requirement), and has rejected those claims over Keller as well.

As background, Applicant's invention addresses a problem which arises from the storage of a large number of tracks (e.g., one hundred or more) on a recordable compact disk, so that it is difficult for the user to remember the track number of all of the tracks, and the user must inconveniently operate the up/down key many times to listen to a desired track. (See application at p. 1, lines 10-30.) Applicant's invention solves this problem in one aspect by managing the tracks on such a recordable medium in a user-friendly manner. In conventional systems for recording on a recordable medium such as a CD-R, a session is formed every time writing is performed but a user is not aware of the session organization. In Applicant's invention, the sessions are used effectively.

In claim 1, for example, the controller regards each session as a virtual disk, allocates a track number for each of the track files in each session in order of time of recording, and automatically plays back the tracks in a session in order of oldest to newest. The controller also displays a name of the virtual disk corresponding to the session containing the file being read, the track number of the track, and a name of the track. Thus, a user can easily find a desired track. (See application, e.g., at p. 2, lines 5-28.) Independent method claims 13 and 14 include corresponding limitations, and claim 14 adds a step of automatically playing back tracks in order of time of recording from the latest (newest) session and changing sessions in order of latest to earliest. Independent claim 15 similarly recites, *inter alia*, that each session is regarded as a virtual disk, a track number is allocated for each track file in order of oldest to newest, and the name of the virtual disk, the track number, and the name of the track are displayed.

Applicant disagrees with the present rejections. Independent claims 1, 13, 14, and 15 recite that a session is regarded as a virtual disk, and track numbers are

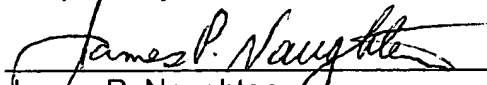
allocated for the track files in each session in order of time of recording. In Keller on the other hand, the recorded sound tracks are not in time order. Applicant explained this in the previous response, but the Examiner has not addressed this distinction.

The Examiner's rejection of some dependent claims, e.g., claims 5, 6, and 12, appears to be based on a misunderstanding. Although those claims refer to a "latest" session on track file as the newest, the Examiner has interpreted "latest" to mean oldest.

The Examiner's rejection of claims 11 and 12 also appears to be based on a misunderstanding. Those claims recite an audio device in which the next-disk key and the previous-disk key are used to move between sessions on one CD-R. However, the Examiner has interpreted this feature to be the use of those keys to change between different CDs in the normal way in a conventional CD changer.

In summary, Applicant continues to believe that the claimed invention patentably distinguishes over the cited art for at least the above identified reasons which the Examiner has not addressed or has perhaps misunderstood. Applicant's undersigned attorney requests a telephone interview with the Examiner to discuss these points in more detail.

Respectfully submitted,


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